

Serial No. 10/731,815

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CASE 52143BUSM1**REMARKS****Status of Claims and Claim Amendments**

Claims 1-16 have been allowed, and claims 17-23 have been rejected.

Claims 17-23 are canceled herein, without prejudice and without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's objections or rejections. Applicants reserve the right to file any of the cancelled subject matter in a continuing patent application.

**Rejection under the Doctrine of Nonstatutory Obviousness-Type Double Patenting**

Claims 17-23 stand provisionally rejected as being unpatentable over the claims of copending Application No. 10/947,635 for reasons of record.

**Response:** In order to expedite prosecution of the present application to allowance, claims 17-23 have been canceled. This amendment is made without prejudice to claiming the canceled subject matter in a continuing application.

In view of this amendment, it is believed that this rejection is now moot and it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

The Office Action dated Dec. 7, 2005 has been carefully considered. It is believed that the amendment submitted herewith and the above comments represent a complete response to the Examiner's rejections and place the present application in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

We believe no fee is due, however, Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge deposit account 02-2117 for any fees due to facilitate the filing of this application. However, this is not authorization to charge the issue fee.

Respectfully submitted,  
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